

Message Text

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10

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-02 INR-07

IO-11 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 /090 W

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R 131535Z FEB 76

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1416

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0189

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL SALTO TWO GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0039

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: USMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD FEB 9-15, 1976

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE FEB 10 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA
FORCE REDUCTIONS NEGOTIATIONS WAS DEVOTED TO THE ISSUE OF
FORCE DEFINITIONS. WESTERN REPS REVIEWED GENERAL POINTS
TENTATIVELY AGREED IN THE COURSE OF PAST DISCUSSIONS AND EXPLAINED
WHY THE WEST CONSIDERED A DATA EXCHANGE NECESSARY PRIOR TO
ALLOCATION OF THE THREE DISPUTED FORCE TYPES. EASTERN REPS
SOUGHT TO SUBSTANTIATE THEIR CASE THAT DATA WAS NOT NECESSARY

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EITHER FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE OF ALLOCATING SIMILAR

FORCES ON BOTH SIDES TO THE SAME ARMED SERVICE, GROUND OR AIR, OR FOR SPECIFIC ALLOCATION OF THE THREE DISPUTED FORCE TYPES. UK REP ROSE MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE FEB 12 PLENARY MEETING. HE RECAPITULATED THE DEC 16 WESTERN NUCLEAR REDUCTION OFFER AND RESPONDED TO EASTERN CRITICISMS OF IT. END SUMMARY.

2. BY PRIOR AGREEMENT, PARTICIPANTS IN THE FEB 10 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA TALKS RESUMED CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF FORCE DEFINITIONS. WESTERN REPS REVIEWED GENERAL POINTS OF TENTATIVE AGREEMENT REACHED IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSING THIS ISSUE DURING THE LAST TWO ROUNDS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND EXPLAINED THE WESTERN REQUIREMENT FOR AN EXCHANGE OF DATA PRIOR TO ALLOCATION OF THE THREE DISPUTED FORCE TYPES: NAMELY, GROUND-BASED TERRITORIAL AIR DEFENSE PERSONNEL; HELICOPTER PERSONNEL; AND SSM PERSONNEL. EASTERN REPS FOCUSED ON EFFORTS TO SUBSTANTIATE THEIR CASE THAT DATA WAS UNNECESSARY EITHER FOR ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRINCIPLE THAT SIMILAR FORCES ON BOTH SIDES SHOULD BE ALLOCATED TO THE SAME ARMED SERVICE, GROUND OR AIR, OR FOR SPECIFIC ALLOCATION OF THE DISPUTED TYPES. WHILE NO MAJOR NEW ELEMENTS EMERGED FROM THE SESSION, SOVIET REP KHLESTOV DID ADMIT SOME LONG-RUN CONNECTION BETWEEN A DEFINITION AND DATA.

3. UK REP ROSE MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT GIVEN AT THE FEB 12 PLENARY MEETING. HE SUMMARIZED THE NUCLEAR OFFER TABLED BY THE WEST LAST DEC 16, NOTING THAT THE ONE-TIME NATURE OF THE PROPOSAL COULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS WESTERN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO INCLUDE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AS SUCH IN ANY REDUCTION AGREEMENT. ROSE RESPONDED TO EASTERN CRITICISMS OF THE NEW WESTERN INITIATIVE MADE THUS FAR, PARTICULARLY THAT THE WEST CONTINUED TO SEEK UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE, AND SAID THAT THEY SUGGESTED THAT THE EAST WAS YET TO APPRECIATE FULLY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF WHAT THE WEST HAD NOW PROPOSED.

4. WHEN SPECIFICALLY ASKED AT THE REGULAR POST-PLENARY PRESS BRIEFING, THE WESTERN SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED A FEB 11 HUNGARIAN NEWSPAPER REPORT THAT THE WESTERN NUCLEAR PROPOSAL INCLUDED AN OFFER TO WITHDRAW SOME US F-4 AIRCRAFT AND PERSHING BALLISTIC MISSILE LAUNCHERS. HE REFUSED TO CONFIRM THE NUMBERS OF THE PROPOSED WITHDRAWALS WHICH WERE ALSO CITED IN THE HUNGARIAN

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PRESS ARTICLE. AS A POSSIBLE REFLECTION OF EASTERN SENSITIVITY TO WESTERN REACTION TO THE HUNGARIAN PRESS "LEAK," THE BRIEFING WAS MARKED BY THE UNUSUAL PRESENCE OF TWO HEADS OF EASTERN DELEGATIONS (GDR REP OESER AND BULGARIAN REP DICHEV).RESOR

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NNN

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